

REMARKS

Applicants thank the Examiner for the telephonic interview of June 12, 2003. In the interview, the Examiner agreed that the present amendment to claim 1 is sufficient to overcome the Calvert reference (US Pat. No. 4,215,592) with respect to claims 1 - 3 and also the White reference (US Pat. No. 4,608,820) with regard to claims 8 – 10. Applicants respectfully request, therefore, that the rejections over the Calvert and White references be withdrawn.

Applicant also respectfully urges the Examiner to examine claims 33 – 40 as being drawn to the elected species III as shown in FIG. 7. FIG. 7 illustrates two worm gear drive sets where one of the worm gear sets may act like a clutch. Applicants point out in the specification with reference to FIG. 1 that “[t]he worm gear 7 coupled to the motor 2 thus acts like a clutch in the system 1.” Page 9, lines 15 – 16 of Applicants’ specification (emphasis added). In addition, claim 36 requires that the clutch of claim 33 further “comprises a gear train.” Claim 38 then further specifies that the gear train of claim 36 “comprises a second worm gear coupled to the output gear.” Claim 39 then further adds to claim 38 “first and second motors for driving said worm gear and said second worm gear, respectively.” It is clear from the above dependent claims and the cited portion of the specification indicating a worm gear may act like a clutch that claims 33 – 40 read on elected Species III.

If the Examiner desires personal contact for further disposition of this case, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned Attorney at 603.668.6560.

No fees are believed due at this time, however, in the event any fees are payable, please charge them (or credit any overpayment) to our Deposit Account No. 50-2121.

Respectfully submitted,


Scott R. Faber

Scott R. Faber
Attorney for Applicant
Reg. No. 48,380
Grossman, Tucker, Perreault & Pfleger, PLLC
55 South Commercial Street
Manchester, NH 03101

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop RCE, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on June 27, 2003 at Manchester, New Hampshire.

By: 